Commodity	Delhi	
	As on 2.7.96	As on 2.9.96
Groundnut Oil	50.00	50.00
Mustard Oil	37.00	40.00
Vanaspati	42.00	41.00
Tea (Loose)	76.00	83.00
Potato	7.00	8.00
Onion	6.00	6.00
Salt (Packed)	5.00	5.00

Source:—Civil Supplies Department Government of NCT of Delhi.

Proposal to involve outside agencies to enquire into KVIC

3394. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to involve outside agencies to make a fresh enquiry into various applications and sanctions of Khadi and Village Industries Commission;

(b) how does Government propose to take swift action against corrupt officials and entrepreneurs who have looted the Khadi and Village Industries Commission;

(c) whether there is any law to ensure that property of such people can be acquired by Government;

(d) the steps proposed to strengthen such laws to protect the funds of KVIC; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) No. Sir.

(b) to (e) The KVIC takes action against the officials alleged to be involved in corruption according to the procedures laid down in KVIC Employees (Conduct, Discipline and Appeal) Regulations and Vigilance Manual, Government of India. Besides, both officials and entrepreneurs are subject to the provisions of Indian Penal Code and Prevention of Corruption Act.

Import of coking coal

3395. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to import seven million tonnes of coking coal during 1996-97 to meet the demand of the power plants in the country;

(b) if so, the estimated cost involved to terms of foreign exchange; and

(c) the extent to which the imports are likely to bridge gap between demand and supply of coking coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISRTY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) and (b) Coal based thermal power plants use only non-coking coal and do not need coking coal. Imports of coal are not made by the Government. Such imports of coal, if any, are made by the consumers themselves, considering their needs and exercising their own commercial judgement.

(c) Coking coal is imported by the steel plants to bridge the gap betwen demand and availability of indigenous coking coal and also for the purpose of blending with indigenous coal on quality consideration. It has been estimated by the Planning Commission that around 9 million tonnes of coking coal may be imported into the country in 1996-97

Export and Import of Industrial Products

3396. SHRI DHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the value of exports and imports of industrial products for the last five year;

(b) the steps being taken to eradicate trade deficit in the near future;

(c) whether agriculture sector will be encouraged to reduce trade deficit; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) Based on a broad definition of Industrial products as manufactured products and intermediates for industry, their exports for 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95 & 1995-96 as per DGCI&S data, in US$ Million are 13709, 14611, 17274, 21085, 24443 respectively. The imports of such products for 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95 & 1995-96 in US$ Million are placed at 17671, 19345, 19981, 22456, 30860 respectively.

(b) The key to reducing trade deficit lies in accelerated export growth. Export promotion measures are continuously being taken by the Government through policy and promotional schemes. These include simplification of Export-Import Policy procedures, improving efficiency and competitiveness, focussing on quality and technology upgradation and efforts to actively involve the State Government in export promotion.

(c) and (d) It is objective of the Government to maximise foreign exchange earnings from the agricultural sector exports to the banefits of the farmers, exports of items of mass consumption are allowed only after careful consideration of domestic requirement and in such a manner that exports do -not compromise the food security of the country. '

To boost export of agricultural products steps have been taken such as simplification of inspection procedures, removal of Minimum Export Price and quality restriction on selected items, provisions of concessional credit, product development to meet international needs, extention of benefits available under the scheme of EOUs/EPZs to agriculture sector and permitting 50% sale in the domestic tariff area, assistance to exporters for improved packaging, strengthening of quality control, promoting export of identified products through brand promotion campaigns, arranging buyer-seller meets and participation in international fairs/exhibitions.

'Dalit Manifesto' in Common Minimum Programme

3397. SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the proposal formulated by Govern ment to implement 'Dalit Manifesto' in corporated in Common Minimum Prog ramme; and

(b) whether there is any time frame drawn for implementation?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) and (b) The Dalit Manifesto has recommended various proposals for the protection and development of SCs/STs which includes, setting up of special courts; appointment of special Public Prosecuter and Special Investigating Officer; establishment of Special Mobile Court in each district for trying cases under the PCR Act on the spot; reservation in education in educational institutions; setting up one residential school each for SCs and STs for boys and girls in every district beside* hostel facilities: comprehensive national programme for minor irrigation to cover all irrigated lands held.by SCs & STs; distribution of land to landless rural families of SCs & STs through" implementation of Land Ceiling Act; Enforcement of Minimum Wages Act; Establishment of a National Authority for total liberation and full rehabilitation of bonded labourers; effective rehabilitation of Safai Karamcharies; reservation for SCs & STs in every sector of employment; enhancing self-employment opportunities for SCs & STs; preservation and restoration of land ownership and possession of STs in tribal areas; setting up a National Development Council for the development of SCs &